

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/EP 03/08196

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 A61F2/38

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A61F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)
EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|--|-----------------------|
| X | EP 0 420 460 A (UNIV LONDON) 3 April 1991 (1991-04-03) figures 2,3,5 column 4, line 12 - column 5, line 5 | 1,2,4 |
| X | DE 41 02 509 A (BREHM PETER) 30 July 1992 (1992-07-30) figures 3,4 column 5, line 36 - line 46 | 1,3 |
| A | DE 29 01 009 A (LINK WALDEMAR GMBH CO) 17 July 1980 (1980-07-17) figures 3,4,7 | 1,3 |

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

10 November 2003

Date of mailing of the international search report

17/11/2003

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Stach, R

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

PCT/EP 03/08196

| Patent document cited in search report | | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
|---|---|---------------------|---|--|
| EP 0420460 | A | 03-04-1991 | GB 2237200 A AT 114447 T DE 69014528 D1 DE 69014528 T2 EP 0420460 A1 ES 2065495 T3 | 01-05-1991 15-12-1994 12-01-1995 18-05-1995 03-04-1991 16-02-1995 |
| DE 4102509 | A | 30-07-1992 | DE 4102509 A1 | 30-07-1992 |
| DE 2901009 | A | 17-07-1980 | DE 2901009 A1 DE 2954475 C2 | 17-07-1980 04-12-1986 |

BEST AVAILABLE COPY